

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 SS-15

NSC-05 DHA-02 SCCT-01 SY-05 NSCE-00 INR-07 INRE-00

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 DODE-00 SP-02

H-02 /067 W

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O P 031817Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 8844

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 2397

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, CASC (SMUTS, BARBARA)(SMITH, KENNETH STEVEN)

(HUNTER, CARRIE JANE)

SUBJ: KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: STUDENTS PLAN STATEMENT

1. STRATEGY MEETING HELD AT EMBASSY AFTERNOON JULY 3, INCLUDING MYSELF, CONSUL MACFARLANE RETURNED FROM KIGOMA, EMBOFFS, NORMAN HUNTER, DAVID HAMBURG, TWO RELEASED STUDENTS AND, FOR PART OF MEETING, DEREK BRYCESON AND DUTCH AMBASSADOR.

2. FAILURE OF PRP TO RELEASE STEVEN SMITH AS PROMISED, AND LATEST EXCHANGE OF MESSAGES, WERE DISCUSSED. WE LEARNED FROM MACFARLANE THAT OUR LAST MESSAGES TO PRP FINALLY LEFT KIGOMA BY CANOE ONLY ON JULY 2, AND PRESUMABLY ARRIVED ABOUT DAWN JULY 3.

3. CONSENSUS OF MEETING WAS THAT WHILE WE CANNOT BE CERTAIN THAT CONTINUED DETENTION OF SMITH IS NOT DUE TO PRP ADMINISTRATIVE RED TAPE OR SLOW COMMUNICATIONS, IT IS ENTIRELY POSSIBLE THAT PR MAY BE CONTEMPLATING NEW DEMANDS. OUR LAST MESSAGES, WE HOPE, MADE  
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CLEAR THAT PRP CANNOT EXPECT RELEASE OF MORE OF ITS PRISONERS

HELD IN TANZANIA, OR ANY PUBLICITY ABOUT ITSELF, SO LONG AS SMITH STILL IN CAPTIVITY. HOWEVER, IT WAS FELT THAT IT WOULD BE GOOD TO REINFORCE THIS MESSAGE BY SUGGESTING THAT FAVORABLE IMAGE WHICH CAPTIVES HAD FORMED OF PRP IDEALS, AND WHICH MIGHT BE REFLECTED IN THE PUBLICITY ATTENDANT ON SMITH'S RELEASE, WILL CHANGE IF THIS RELEASE IS MUCH FURTHER POSTPONED. SUCH A MESSAGE, WERE IT TO REACH KABILA AT THIS TIME, BY RADIO, WHEN WE MAY HOPE THAT WORD OF RELEASE OF KILENGA AND ALFRED NONDO'S REPORT ARE ALSO ABOUT TO ARRIVE BY COURIER, MIGHT HAVE FAVORABLE IMPACT AND SUGGEST TO KABILA THAT PROMPT RELEASE MAXIMIZES THE GAINS HE CAN REALISTICALLY HOPE TO OBTAIN FROM KIDNAPPING EXERCISE.

4. A FURTHER PURPOSE OF A RADIO MESSAGE WOULD BE TO ENCOURAGE SMITH HIMSELF, AND INDUCE HIM TO WAIT PATIENTLY WITHOUT ANY RASH ATTEMPT AT ESCAPE AS ORIGINAL 60-DAY DEADLINE APPROACHES.

5. TO THIS END, CARRIE JANE HUNTER AND EMILIE BERGMANN HAVE DRAFTED STATEMENT, IN CONSULTATION WITH OUR GROUP HERE, WHICH THEY PLAN TO READ TO PRESS AT HOTEL AT 1100 HOURS LOCAL TOMORROW, JULY 4. THEY WILL ALSO READ FRENCH AND SWAHILI VERSIONS OF THE STATEMENT, AND THEY WILL DISTRIBUTE TEXTS TO PRESS AND RADIO PEOPLE PRESENT AND SUCH OTHERS AS DAVID HAMBURG, WITH OUR GUIDANCE, CAN CONTACT. NO EMBASSY PERSONNEL WILL BE PRESENT AT MEETING WITH PRESS.

6. WE ALSO ARRANGING FEED TEXT IN ADVANCE TO VOA.

7. TEXT OF STATEMENT DRAFTED BY STUDENTS IS AS FOLLOWS:

QTE A STATEMENT BY EMILIE BERGMANN AND CARRIE JANE HUNTER  
DAR ES SALAAM 4 JULY 1975

AS IS KNOWN WE, ALONG WITH BARBARA SMUTS AND STEVEN SMITH, WERE KIDNAPPED ON THE NIGHT OF MAY 19, 1975, FROM THE GOMBE RESEARCH STATION IN NORTHWESTERN TANZANIA BY MEMBERS OF THE PARTIE DE LA REVOLUTION POPULAIRE (PRP). BARBARA WAS RELEASED WITH MESSAGES FROM US ON MAY 25.

FOLLOWING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE PRP, THE REMAINING THREE OF US WERE TO BE RELEASED ON SATURDAY, JUNE 28. BUT WHEN THE TIME  
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CAME, TO OUR ASTONISHMENT AND DISMAY, STEVE WAS NOT PERMITTED TO RETURN WITH US.

AND NOW TO YOU THE LEADERS OF THE PRP WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY:

IT IS NATURAL THAT ON THIS AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE DAY WE THINK OF STEVE AND ARE DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED THAT HE IS NOT HERE WITH US AS YOU HAD PROMISED.

UNTIL NOW, ALL FOUR OF US WHO WERE KIDNAPPED WERE DEVELOPING CONSIDERABLE RESPECT FOR YOUR IDEALS. WE HAD HOPED TO DESCRIBE THESE FAITHFULLY AND IN DETAIL FOR ALL THE WORLD TO HEAR. BUT WHEN STEVE WAS NOT RELEASED WITH US LAST SATURDAY WE BEGAN TO HAVE DOUBTS, AND WITH EACH PASSING DAY THAT HE STILL IS NOT RETURNED OUR DOUBTS AND CONCERNS ARE INCREASING. DID YOU MISLEAD US ABOUT THESE IDEALS? WERE YOUR CONTINUED REFERENCES TO HONOR AND DISCIPLINE MERE PROPAGANDA? WE HOPE THAT THE FAILURE TO RELEASE STEVE ON JULY 2, AS PROMISED, IS MERELY AN ADMINISTRATIVE DELAY. BUT UNLESS STEVE IS RELEASED VERY SOON, OUR VIEW AND THAT OF THE WORLD CANNOT HELP BUT CHANGE.

AND NOW A PERSONAL MESSAGE TO STEVE:

WE KNOW YOU ARE STRONG. WE URGE THAT UNTIL YOU ARE RELEASED YOU REMAIN STRONG, HAVE COURAGE AND BE PATIENT. OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS ARE WITH YOU. UNQTE  
CARTER

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